

of Murakami et al., Chem. Pharm. Bull. 41 [12] 2129-2131
(1993), which is incorporated herein by reference in its
entirety. Other teachings regarding crape myrtle and
lagerstroemia speciosa are seen in Kakuda et al., Biosci.
Biotech. Biochem. 60 (2) 204-208 (1996) and Kajimoto and
Murakami, Nippon Elyo, Shokuryo Gakkaishi 52: 209-218
(1999), both of which are incorporated herein by reference
in their entirety.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 and 14.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17 as follows:

1. (Amended) A topical composition comprising:
crape myrtle extract in an amount effective to improve
the aesthetic appearance of skin, scalp and/or hair, and
a cosmetically acceptable vehicle,

wherein the crape myrtle extract is present in an
amount from about 0.0001 wt% to about 15 wt% based on the
total weight of the composition.

3. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the crape myrtle extract is present in an amount from about 0.001 wt% to about 10 wt% based on the total weight of the composition.

8. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the crape myrtle extract includes colosolic acid.

10. (Amended) A method of improving the aesthetic appearance of skin, comprising topically applying to the skin:

a composition comprising an effective amount of crape myrtle extract; and

a cosmetically acceptable vehicle,

wherein the improvement in aesthetic appearance is selected from the group consisting of:

- a) decreasing skin fragility;
- b) treating and reversing deterioration of collagen and/or elastin;
- c) treating skin atrophy;
- d) promoting/accelerating cell turnover;

- e) improving skin firmness/plumpness;
- f) improving skin texture;
- g) decreasing fine lines and/or wrinkles;
- h) improving skin tone;
- i) enhancing skin thickness;
- j) restoring skin luster;
- k) minimizing signs of fatigue; and
- l) reducing skin dryness.

15. (Amended) A method of treating and/or ameliorating the effects of extrinsic and/or intrinsic aging on skin comprising topically applying to the skin a composition comprising an effective amount of crape myrtle extract and a cosmetically acceptable vehicle.

17. (Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the crape myrtle extract is applied to the skin at least once daily for a period of time sufficient to treat and/or ameliorate the effects of skin aging.

Please add new claims 26 to 28.

-- 26. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the improvement in aesthetic appearance of hair includes at least one of the following:

- a) increasing hair thickness;
- b) improving hair luster and shine;
- c) improving manageability; and
- d) overall hair health.

27. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the improvement in aesthetic appearance of hair includes at least one of the following:

- a) increasing hair thickness;
- b) improving hair luster and shine; and
- c) improving manageability.

28. (New) A method of countering the effects of extrinsic and/or intrinsic aging on skin comprising topically applying to the skin a composition comprising an effective amount of crape myrtle extract and a cosmetically acceptable vehicle. --

REMARKS

The present application has claims 1, 3 to 13 and 15 to 28. These claims include independent composition claim